Erosion problem in the critical reaches of Ganga

305. SHRIMATI SARLA MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the high level expert Committee set up to study the erosion problem in the critical reaches of Ganga has since submitted its report;

(b) if so, the findings thereof; and

(c) what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: (a) Yes, Sir. The High Level Expert Committee (HLEC) to study erosion problems in critical reaches of Ganga between Buxar and Mokama has submitted its report.

(b) The Committee in its findings has identified the critical areas[7] sites and suggested an number of short term and long term measures to tackle the problem of erosion caused by river Ganga between Buxar and Mokama. The Committee has stressed upon taking up the morphological studies and hydraulic model studies to know, more precisely, the erosion behaviour of the river and various factors responsible for it. The Committee has further emphasized on people's participation in the flood control and anti erosion works, maintenance of embankments and meeting flood emergencies.

(c) The report has been sent to the concerned State Governments for necessary follow up action on the various recommendations of the Committee.

Utilisation of rain water

306. SHRI CHO S. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the ground water level is depleting at an alarming rate all over the country;

(b) whether it is also a fact that during the heavy monsoon, the

rain water just drains out into the sea without proper utilisation of these waters;

(c) if so, whether Government propose to utilise this water for various purposes by harvesting these untapped waters to improve the ground water level;

(d) if so, whether Government are planning any big projects on a war fotting; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) The long-term observations made by the Central Ground Water Board have shown a situation of fall in the level of ground water in various parts of the country. The names of the districts havirtg pockets where fall in the ground water level for more than 4 metre (1981—2000) has been observed in different States are indicated in the Statement enclosed. *(See* below).

(b) Substantial quantities of rain water drains out into the sea without proper utilisation during monsoon.

(c) to (e) Water being a State subject, it is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Governments to plan, finance and execute schemes for augmenting water resources. Government of India is also promoting rain water harvesting through Watershed Management Programme, artificial recharge of ground water and roof top rain water harvesting under various schemes. Various measures as intimated by the Central Government for water conservation and augmenting ground water resources are indicated below:—

(i) Constitution of Central Ground Water Authority under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for regulation and control of ground water management and development.

(ii) Circulation of a Model Bill to all the StatevUnion Territories to enable them to enact suitable legislation for regulation and control of ground water development.

(iii) Circulation of Manual of artificial recharge of ground water to the Statcs^Jnion Territories to enable them to formulate area specific artificial recharge schemes to check the declining trend in ground water levels.

(iv) Implementation of Central Sector Scheme on Studies on Artificial Recharge of Ground Water in the country at an estimated cost of Rs. 25.00 crore. Recharging wells and rain water harvesting are integral part of this scheme. The results of the scheme have been found to be very encouraging.

(v) National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPRA)

(vi) Soil Conservation in the Catchment of River Valley Project.

(vii) Integrated Watershed Management in the Catchment of Flood Prone Rivers (FPR).

(viii) Watershed Development Project for control of shifting Cultivation Area (WDPSCA) in North-Eastern India.

(ix) Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP)

(x) Desert Development Programme (DDP)

(xi) Integrated Wasteland Development Project (IWDP)

These programmes are implemented nation-wide.

Statement

Name of the State/UT/District having pockets with fall in Ground Water level of more than 4 metre (1981-2000)

STATE	FALL IN WATER LEVEL
ANDHRA PRADESH	Adilabad, Ananthapur, Chittoor, Cuddapah, East Godavari, Guntur, Hyderabad, Karimnagar, Khammam, Krishna, Kurnool, Mahabubnagar, Medak, Nalgonda, Nellore, Nizam a bad, Prakasam, Rangereddi, Srikakulam, Vizianagaram, Visakhapatnam, Warangal, West Godavari.

STATE	FALL IN WATER LEVEL
BIHAR (including Jharkhand)	Dhanbad, Purb Singhbhum
CHHATTISGARH	Bastar, Bilaspur, Durg, Raigarh, Raipur, Rajnandgaon, Satna, Sidhi.
GUJARAT	Ahmedabad, Amreli, Banaskantha, Bharuch, Bhavnagar, Jamnagar, Junagadh, Kheda, Kutch, Mehsana, Rajkot, Surat, Surendranagar.
HARYANA	Ambala, Bhiwani, Faridabad, Gurgaon, Hisar, " Jind, Kaithal, Kamal, Kurukshctra, Mahendergarh, Panipat, Rewari, Rohtak, Sonepat, Yamunanagar.
KARNATAKA	Bangalore (Rural), Bellary, Belgaum, Bidar, Bagalkot, Bijapur, Chitradurga, Devangiri, Dharwar, Gadag, Gulbarga, Haveri, Hassan, Kolar, Mysore, Chamarajanagar, Raichur, Shimoga, Kapol, Tumkur, Uttara Kannada.
MADHYA PRADESH	Betul, Bhind, Chhatarpur, Chhindwara, Damoh, Datia, Dewas, Dhar, Guna, Gwalior, Indore, Jabalpur, Katni, Khandawa, Khargone, Mandsaur, Morena, Narsingpur, Neemuch, Panna, Raisen, Raigarh, Ratlam, Sagar, Schore, Shajapur, Shivpuri, Ujjain, Vidisha.
MAHARASHTRA	Ahmednagar, Akola, Beed, Bombay, Dhule, Gadchiroli, Kolhapur, Nanded, Nashik, Osmanabad, Amravati, Aurangabad, Bhandara, Buldhana, Chandrapur, Jalgaon, Jalna, Latur, Nagpur, Parbhani, Pune, Ratnagiri, Sangh, Sindhudurg, Thane, Satara, Solapur, Wardha, Yavatmal.

STATE	FALL IN WATER LEVEL
ORISSA	Angul, Balasore, Bargarh, Bolangir, Dhenkanal, Gajapati, Ganjam, Jajpur, Kalahandi, Keonjhar, Khurda, Koraput, Malkangiri, Mayurbhanja, Nawapara, Nawarangpur, Sundargarh, Suvarnapur.
PUNJAB	Amritsar, Bathinka, Fatehgarh, Firozepur, Jalandhar, Kapurthala, Ludhiana, Moga, Nawan Shehar, Patiala, Roper, Sangrur.
RAJASTHAN	Ajmer, Alwar, Bhilwara, Dungarpur, Ganganagar, Jaipur, Jaisalmer, Jhalawar, Jhunjhunu, Jodhpur, Nagpur, Faii, Rajsamand, Sikar, Udaipur.
TAMIL NADU	Coimbatore, Cuddalore, Dharmapuri, Kancheepuram, Kanyakumari, Madras, Pudukottai, Sivagangai, Tanjavur, Theni, Tirunelveli, Thiruvallur, Tiruvannamalai, Thiruvarur, Tuticorin.
UTTAR PRADESH (including Uttaranchal)	Agra, Aligarh, Allahabad, Budaun, Bijnor, Bulandshahar, Etah, Etawah, Farrukhabad, Fatehpur, Ghaziabad, Hardoi, Kanpur, Lucknow, Mathura, Meerut, Moradabad, Rai Bareli, Saharanpur, Unnao.
WEST BENGAL	Bankura, Bardhaman, Medinipur, N~24 Pargana, Purulia.
PONDICHERRY	Pondicherry.

Ground water level in Jodhpur

307. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ground water level in Jodhpur city has damaged the buildings and as per scientists the damage to the city would be more disastrous than Bhuj and Anjar even if the tremor is of low intensity;